considered on a case-by-case basis in the Ministry of Finance and the administrative Ministry concerned, based on a specific proposals by the State Government, in accordance with the existing regulations and guidelines for consideration of foreign exchange release in a project specific context. Details in this regard can be given if the Hon'ble Member mentions the specific project or the proposal of the State Government.

India's Foreign Debt Position

*192. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the study of the washington-based Institute for International Finance on India's foreign debt position; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and Government's reaction to the views expressed by the Institute?

THE MINITER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMPENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Country Report on India prepared by the Institute of International Finance is a confidential document intended for use of IIF members only. As such, it is not considered appropriate for Government to comment on its contents.

Revival of Sick Industrial Units in Punjab

*193. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punjab Government has recently constituted two high powered committees to revive the sick industrial units in the small, medium and large sectors;

(b) whether it is a fact that no further efforts have been made by the Central Government to improve the State's economy;

(c) whether Government propose to extend more help to the Punjab Government to revive its sick units in view of the present condition prevailing in Punjab; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) The State Government of Punjab has reported that it has set up an Empowered Committee to consider reliefs and concessions to be granted to the sick industrial units by the State Government for their rehabilitation as envisaged in the relief package worked out by the operating agency appointed by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction.

The Reserve Bank of India has been providing suitable relaxation in terms and conditions of sanction of advances to ensure that there is sufficient flow of credit for trade and industry in Punjab. These include *inter-alia* sanctioning of *ad-hoc* credit facilities wherever required on merit; additional working limits beyond the existing limits; relaxation in terms and conditions of sanction of advances for a limited period such as lowernig of margin requirements (except in cases of commodities covered under Selective Credit Control); rescheduling of repayment programme; relaxation in norms for inventory and receivable, extension period for realisation of bills; reduction in the service charges of demand drafts, bankers cheques, pay orders and other remittances, etc.

In regard to industrial rehabilitation, no separate policy has been introduced in respect of any individual State. However, when dealing with cases of individual units, the special difficulties, if any, faced by such units due to any reasons including environmental factors, are given due consideration while drawing up the rehabilitation packages/extending finance by banks and financial institutions.